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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2012

Photo contest

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New Canadian Tire owner impressed
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Brit baker gives

A slice of pie and a slice of life
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INPORT NEWS

SERVING PORT COLBORNE • WAINFLEET • SHERKSTON • LOWBANKS • ISSUE NO. 42 VOLUME 16

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■ **RECREATION:** Lake Erie waves ideal for windsurfers

Sherkston the Maui of the North

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — When the wind starts to pick up on Lake Erie, kite surfers and windsurfers at Sherkston shores ready their gear and get set to tackle what they call the Maui of the North.

"This is the premiere spot on the lake," said Lou Marinaccio, a windsurfer who has been at Sherkston for 40 years.

The Buffalo resident, who considers himself an amateur, has been windsurfing for about 15 years. His wife, Jai, got him into the sport.

The reason the waters off Sherkston are good for windsurfers and kite surfers, he said, is due to an offshore shoal.

"It gives us good waves whenever the wind is out of the west or southwest."

Casey Treichler, a former American pro-level windsurfer, said the shoal sees the lake bottom drop down to just over a metre in depth from 16 metres.

"There are good waves and no shore break ... it's very smooth and easy to get out. This is a very good spot!"

see **WINDSURFING** | page 2



Windsurfers seen offshore at Sherkston Shores recently.

DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

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upfront

■ WINDSURFING

September to November prime time for surfing

FROM PAGE 1

Treichler never realized how good the waters of Sherkston Shores were until he left the area to compete in places like Maui and Cape Hatteras, N.C.

"I lived in Maui for six months and the wind and waves here are just as good as there. The windier it gets here, the better it gets," said the Buffalo resident who grew up spending summers at the resort on Lake Erie's north shore.

He said the best time for windsurfers and kite surfers is from September until about mid-November, the windiest time along the lake. The summer months, he added, are also good and there's the added bonus of warmer water during that time.

"Last year I windsurfed all year long because we didn't have any ice in the lake ... it was awesome," Treichler said recently as he was getting ready to head out on to the lake.

He said windsurfing is "crazy fun" and there's nothing like gliding across the water on a board with a sail.

Gail Marinaccio said the best things about windsurfing are the freedom, power, speed



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo
Casey Treichler, a former American pro-level windsurfer, rides waves on Lake Erie off of Sherkston Shores during a recent windy day.

and manoeuvrability.

"I've had powerboats and jet skis; with windsurfing it's just you, the board, sail and the wind. It's a whole different feeling," she said.

Cam Rainwater, an Iowa native living in St. Catharines, said windsurfing is "awesome."

Rainwater tried his hand at windsurfing in 2011 and was hooked. This year saw him buy his own gear and take to the waters of the lake on windy days.

"You're using nature as your power, there's no other feeling like it ... you're in control and you can feel the power of the

wind," he said.

While Rainwater is just getting into the sport, Gail said the learning never stops.

"There's always something new to learn ... I still fall down often," she said.

Her husband said someone once told him that windsurfing has a series of learning

curves and of the two wind-bladed sports off of Sherkston Shores, it is the more difficult.

Treichler agreed and said windsurfing is far more physically demanding than kite surfing, which he also does.

Windsurfers have to grip a bar on their sail and hold on the whole time they are on the water. In kite surfing, the kite is attached to a harness around a person's waist area and the kite is controlled by lines in their hands. Kitesurfers also have the option of having straps or no straps on their boards, as do windsurfers.

"You use less energy in kite surfing. You can control the wind with your body and really set which way you want to go. There is a lot of power though and you have to be careful," he said.

Randy Crevier, of Welland, said kite surfing can be dangerous and people have been killed in the sport.

"You can get really high up in the air and hit the water hard or get tangled up in the lines."

But the sport is fun, he said, adding his wife, Sharon, got him into both windsurfing and kite surfing. He's been kite surfing for about five years and windsurfing for 25.

"You can get bigger air with

the kites and go out in really light winds."

Another advantage to kite surfing, he said, is the cost. The sport is relatively inexpensive for those who want to get into it.

"For about \$2,000 you can get a board, kite and the gear you need. You'd spend about \$5,000 for windsurfing equipment. And you can travel easier with the kite gear. A lot of (airline) companies won't take windsurf boards anymore."



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo
Casey Treichler, a former American pro-level windsurfer, says the waters off of Sherkston Shores are perfect for windsurfers and kitesurfers.

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■ **RECREATION:** Lake Erie waves ideal for windsurfers

Surfers battle it out on the lake

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — There was a battle for the control of Lake Erie between Canadians and Americans on Sunday, but it wasn't a War of 1812 re-enactment involving tall ships and sailors.

Instead, it was a battle between surfers from the two nations as they took part in NOTL Surf Club's Battle Of The Great Lakes Surf Contest, the second on Lake Erie this year and the third in the series.

George Holmes, of NOTL Surf Club, put the event on in the Pleasant Beach area of Port Colborne. The previous two surfing competitions, one in November of 2011 and one in January of this year, had been held at the municipal boat launch in Fort Erie.

With high winds overnight Saturday and Sunday, Holmes was hoping for big waves, but conditions only presented surfers with waves a metre to just over a metre in height.

That didn't stop at least 50 surfers from across Niagara, Toronto, Western New



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Elias Tobias, of Toronto, took first place in the short board division at NOTL Surf Club's Battle Of The Great Lakes Surf Contest this past Sunday. Twenty-eight surfers took part in the contest in the Pleasant Beach area of Port Colborne.

York and Rochester from coming down for the event. A freelance journalist for the Weather Network even showed to over the event,

as did a filmmaker working on film about surfing on the Great Lakes.

"We had big crews from Toronto and Rochester,"

Holmes said.

While there were Canadians and Americans competing in the event, it also had an international flavour to it, with French, Peruvian and Venezuelan expats taking to the water.

There were two divisions, long board and short board, with heats held to determine who went on to the finals. Each heat, and the finals, ran for 20 minute sessions with judges — Chris Furlminger, Mike Roy, Marty Parr, Bob Sobering and Holmes — watching the action. Prizes for the event were provided by Surf Ontario's Mike Sandusky, who can be found teaching people to surf in the Wyldewood Beach area of Port Colborne.

"I'm happy ... it was a good day," said Holmes at the end of the contest, which saw 28 competitors in total in the two divisions.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Larry Caverso, left, surfs past filmmaker Cole Slutsky during the contest.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Willie Burton, of Rochester, NY, competing in the long board division.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Rochester was well represented at the Battle of the Great Lakes Surf Contest, with Aurélien Bouché-Pillon, left, finishing second in the short board division and Scott Johns finishing first in the long board division and Willie Burton finishing third.

THE WINNERS

Winners in the long board division:

- 1 Scott Johns, of Rochester
- 2 Antonio Acuña, of Rochester
- 3 Willie Burton, of Rochester

Winners in the short board division:

- 1 Elias Tobias, of Toronto
- 2 Aurélien Bouché-Pillon, of Rochester
- 3 Shaun Waltzer, of Oakville

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ourview

A lingering sign of the times

Here in south Niagara, we are heading into food drive season.

It should be appalling, but repetitive action has a way of numbing the senses and making this more acceptable than it should be. Truth is, it should not be acceptable.

"Ho hum, another food drive," is a typical reaction to the news, without second thought being given to the question that deserves being asked: "Why? Why are we having all these food drives?"

Although we are told about how the need is increasing year after year, rarely do we hear discussed why food drives are necessary and why they have endured as long as they have.

One thing that stuck in my craw years ago is the headline that appeared over a big-city newspaper's story about food banks and food drives, something like: "How a snack turned into an endless meal." When the first food drive was held, it was thought it would be a short-term measure only.

It didn't turn out that way. And not only that, food drives spread from community to community.

We should be embarrassed about food drives taking place: Saturday, Oct. 27, in Wainfleet; Saturday, Nov. 3, in Welland and Port Colborne; and Saturday, Dec. 1, in Pelham.

Here in south Niagara, these community-wide initiatives it's commendable we have food drives as part of our social safety net. But the sad reality is this teaspoon approach to solving a social problem and social injustice won't ever get the job done. The task is too daunting. While individual generosity and volunteerism have achieved much as Band-Aid measures, political will by people in high places to work with the common good in mind and heart has been sadly lacking.

Let's not forget, either, that smaller-scale food drives are held just about every week in one place or another. And food drives are held week after week in some churches, who go so far as to post a listing in their weekly bulletins of the most-needed items. Parishioners respond by making sure nonperishable food bins in foyers are topped up during the week.

I'VE BEEN THINKING

God uses heat to shape his masterpieces

PASTOR JEEVA SAM
Morgan's Point and Forts Road East
United Churches

On a recent visit to the Corning Museum of Glass our family witnessed an amazing display of artistic ability as expert glassmakers took a small globe of molten glass and transformed it into a spectacular bowl in just over half an hour. The finished product was the culmination of a series of processes—blowing air, applying layers of coloured glass, moulding and shaping, snipping off excess—to name a few.

What struck me most about the entire demonstration was the frequency with which the glassmakers kept on inserting the work in progress in a furnace so they could keep the glass at temperatures exceeding 1000 degrees Fahrenheit. It was pretty obvious that the making of this masterpiece was impossible without the application of intense heat at critical intervals.

As I reflected upon this experience, it dawned on me that God, like the glassmakers, allows us to go through periodic applications of intense heat as well, so that He can fashion masterpieces out of the molten material of our lives.

I thought of the Old Testament character, Joseph, whose life story is recorded in

chapters 37-50 of the book of Genesis. When we first meet him, Joseph is a cocky young man who raises the ire of his parents and siblings by sharing dreams in which they would one day bow down before him. Shortly thereafter, we find Joseph deposited in a pit by his jealous brothers who then sell him into slavery. While serving an Egyptian cook, Joseph is falsely accused of raping his master's wife and thrown into prison.

Notice how the molten glass that is Joseph keeps on experiencing the intense heat of cruelty, slavery and treachery in intervals. Every application of heat, though painful to endure, turns into an opportunity for God to mould Joseph into the masterpiece He had created him to be and become.

Only two things could've prevented Joseph from reaching his destiny. He could have allowed sin to separate him from the Master Glassmaker's hands by committing adultery with Potiphar's wife. He could have permitted bitterness to enter into his spirit and turned against God. He did neither.

While enduring the heat of the furnace in prison, God arranges a divine connection to be made with a fellow jailbird, Pharaoh's wine steward. When Pharaoh needs someone to interpret his troubling dreams, this steward, whose dream Joseph had interpreted accurately, remembers his cellmate. Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dreams

to his satisfaction and is immediately promoted to second-in-command of the entire nation...just like that.

The book of Genesis chronicles how the dreams of the cocky teenager did indeed come true in the end.

As I examine the lives of men and women who have been used by God in amazing ways, I can see how virtually every one of them had to endure the heat of the furnace in the process of being moulded into the masterpieces they are today. The heat came from different sources and in varying degrees—a painful divorce, intense conflict, humiliating defeat, debilitating disease, unforeseen accidents, unexpected loss of a secure job, business failure—no name a few. Yet, every one of them will admit that in a peculiar way, the intense heat of adversity allowed God to take them as they were and make them into vessels of honour.

Jesus himself was "made perfect by suffering" (Hebrews 5). Can his followers experience anything different?

How about you? If you are indeed experiencing a heat wave of adversity, could this be the Master Glassmaker at work? As long as you do not get bitter, as long as you do not allow God to take you out of His creative processes, you will indeed become the masterpiece that He has destined you to be. Just ask Joseph and Jesus.

readers'views

Successful book sale

We would like to thank all our patrons and donors who supported the University Women Club's 43rd annual Book Sale.

Once again your generosity has been successfully reached our goal. Special thanks go to Arthur, Pat and Darlene at the Niagara Regional Exhibition Grounds, David Young of Niagara Peninsula Homes, Niagara Women's Enterprise Centre, and to all our families and friends who helped.

Proceeds from the sale are used to award local high school scholarships to eight young women who will be continuing their studies at a university this year.

In addition, charitable donations are made to local organizations for special projects.

Beth Jeffery, Book Sale Convenor
CUFW Welland & District
Port Colborne

Why do we beg for what is ours?

Why must taxpayers, those who elected

our officials, expect to have to beg and pray and petition for our due? Local hospitals and their services are ours. We paid for them, some of us through payroll deductions when canvassed, when they were built.

These are our hospitals, not Niagara Health System or Dr. Kevin Smith's or Dalton McGuinty's.

The Ontario Ministry of Health works for us, you and me, not for the (loopy) regional government that wastes millions of dollars moving power plants like chess pieces for votes, as well as a billion here and a billion there on eHealth, Ornge, etc.

We shouldn't need to petition anyone.

Our elected agents should be getting us what we tell them to get. No less. We should be demanding our right to our hospitals and our services or getting resignations from those not serving their public taxpayers.

With all good intentions a few like Welland Ward 2 Coun. Frank Campton and the local health-care committee are working for our rights. All well and good, but if those politicians that represent us can't maintain our opportunity to go to and be treated at our local hospitals, then there should be mass resignations.

Imagine a citizen like Doris Miller in Ridgeway having to beg for health services.

Now we are expected to roll over because some political apologist has an opinion, an opinion that should only be our choice. We whine and we beg and petition and pray and that will get us nothing with those we elect unless there's a consequence behind our collective heaves.

And MPP Cindy Foster calls for public input on the boundaries for electoral ridings for fear of losing some leftist voters in Thorold. Foster loses we are not aware. Is she aware of the crisis for help by those like Doris Miller in Ridgeway? I'm sure voters who lose health services and hospitals know full well who to blame and who has served them and who to vote for.

Is she aware the boundaries of her current riding have lost most of their industrial base all while her party has represented us at Queen's Park?

Stand and be counted elected officials, you have a job to do. St. Catharines has got the plum and we demand we get to keep what we have.

R.A. West
Welland

see LETTER TO THE EDITOR | page 5

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■ LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Looking to the future of our hospitals

Moving forward on health care

Dr. Kevin Smith proclaims "... a new era focused on creating a sustainable, high quality health system is upon us."

At Niagara Health System, the work has begun with significant changes to staff leadership and searches are underway for new board members, a chief executive officer and a vice-president of medical affairs/ chief of staff.

The scope of the \$880-million capital investment is remarkable — a second state-of-the-art hospital, two urgent care centres and an expanded advanced care paramedic program. While there must be discussion around the placement of the urgent care centres, we must also find a way to get this behind us, so that together we can focus on the future of Niagara health care.

In November the NHS will take

ownership of a new hospital in St. Catharines.

We know what the future of health care looks like.

We also know that this future was shaped by thoughtful regional and municipal support and by tireless fundraising volunteers.

At the NHS Foundation we believe this plan presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to reinvent health care in Niagara. Please join us in support of a vibrant and sustainable health-care system for Niagara.

John Bergsma
Chairman NHS Foundation



■ PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS

MPAC notices coming

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — How much is your property worth?

That's the question Municipal Property Assessment Corp. will be working to answer in coming months.

Property owners can expect to see MPAC assessment notices in the mail next month, as 2013 marks the beginning of yet another four-year property assessment cycle.

MPAC representative Lynne Cunningham appeared before council last week to help explain the assessment process.

Assessment notices in Niagara will begin going out to residential and farm property owners the second week of November, and to

commercial properties toward the end of November.

The cycle, which runs from 2013-16, will see properties assessed based on what they were worth as of Jan. 1, 2012.

If a property's value has increased since the last assessment in 2008, that increase will be phased in equally over four years. If the assessment has decreased, that change will be recognized immediately.

Residential properties in Port Colborne are projected to see, on average, a 6.4% increase, divided among the four-year phase-in, Cunningham said. That number includes all residential properties, including homes on the waterfront, as well as townhouses, condominiums and single-detached dwellings.

Port Colborne's single-family detached homes not on the waterfront have a projected increase of 3.52%.

Farm properties, on the other hand, are expected to see an increase of upward of 40%, Cunningham said. It's a trend that is being seen on rural properties across Ontario, she added.

Property owners are able to place a request for reconsideration of their MPAC assessment, if they don't agree with the results. This must be filed by April 1, 2013, and can be done at www.mpac.ca.

If people have questions after receiving their notices, they are encouraged to call 1-866-296-6722.

Individual property assessment information is also available at www.aboutmyproperty.ca.

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IN BRIEF

MARINA LEASE EXTENDED

PORT COLBORNE — Details have yet to be finalized before Port Colborne can issue its request for proposals for operation of the marine supply centre at Sugarloaf Marina.

Though the city currently has a public-private partnership arrangement in place, issues have risen regarding certain "grey areas" of the agreement interpreted differently by both the city and the private operator.

The new RFP will clarify those grey areas and include several changes to ensure the city's direction is more clearly understood and enforced.

The draft RFP document was before council last week, but it was not complete. Council opted to wait for the completed document before providing approval and having it issued.

In the meantime, council has given Port Colborne Marine, the marina's current service provider, a six-month lease extension from Dec. 31 to June 30.

FACELIFT FOR KILLALY

PORT COLBORNE — A facelift is in the future for Killaly St. W.

Utility relocation on the regional road, between Knoll and King Sts., will begin as soon as this winter in preparation for road work that will include upgrades to curbs, gutters and sidewalks, and installation of bicycle

lanes and intersection turning lanes.

Work will also be done by the City of Port Colborne to replace a watermain, rehabilitate sections of sanitary infrastructure and add storm infrastructure where required for future projects.

ROAD AUDIT WANTED

PORT COLBORNE — Port Colborne is requesting a safety audit on the intersection of Main St. W. and Steele St.

Following several collisions,

including one late last month that saw a transport truck plow into a corner home, Ward 3 Coun. Bea Kenny is requesting a review of the area by Niagara Region.

As Main St. W. is a regional road, the city will request the audit at the region's expense.

SEARCH FOR KITESURFER

WAINFLEET — A Lake Erie kitesurfer was source of concern to authorities last week after police received a report of what was first

thought to be a capsized sailboat off Morgan's Point Park at about 1:30 p.m. Crews from Port Colborne Marine Auxiliary Rescue (POCOMAR) and the Canadian Coast Guard vessel Cape Discovery and a Canadian Forces Rescue Cormorant helicopter responded.

Witnesses near Long Beach Conservation Park saw a male kite surfer wearing a personal flotation device get knocked into the water in high southerly winds and large waves. Witnesses saw the man abandon his craft

and swim to shore uninjured. The helicopter and ship were recalled when NRP confirmed the kite belonged to the unknown male who abandoned it at Long Beach.

Staff Sgt. Dave Kukoly warned water sports can be very dangerous, especially in inclement weather. "The kites on those are like parachutes when they get into the water they are nearly impossible to pull out," he said. "They become like an anchor. If he hadn't abandoned it would have pulled him down and drowned him."

LEAF BUDDIES

PORT COLBORNE — Following success of its popular Snow Buddies program, which has students volunteering to do snow removal for area seniors, Community Support Services Niagara is branching out into other seasons.

Through its recently launched Leaf Buddies program, students can volunteer to rake and remove leaves—another cause of falls—for seniors in need across the region.

For more information on the programs or to volunteer, call 905-682-3800 ext. 28.

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SHUTTERBUGS ENCOURAGED TO CAPTURE FALL

PORT COLBORNE — The City of Port Colborne is challenging budding photographers to capture the best the season has to offer.

While announcing the winner of the summer photography contest—Richard O'Neill for his

photograph Canopy Ride Above Port Colborne — Mayor Vance Badaway announced the theme of the next competition — All Things Fall.

The city is asking people to do their best to capture images of fall colours, children playing in leaves, or trick-or-treaters at the spookiest.

The winning photographer will receive a \$100 gift card




and the photograph will be displayed in city hall and posted on the city's website. It may be used in the city's marketing projects.









To enter, submit five high-resolution digital photographs to the city's tourism co-ordinator at Roselawn Centre, 296 Fielden Ave., or to city hall, 66 Charlotte St., or e-mail to tourism@portcolborne.ca.



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Options available on select new 2012/2013 models to qualified customers who take delivery by October 31/12. Some conditions apply. Offers subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details on all offers in area. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories/equipment available at extra cost. All offers exclude licensing, registration, insurance, taxes & dealer payment (if applicable) & sales otherwise specified. Other lease financing options available. **MSRP purchase financing available on select new 2013 Kia's OAC. Terms vary by model/year. †Offer Pay for 90 Days† on select new models (90-day payment deferral) applies to purchases financed on select 2012/2013 models OAC. 2012/2013 Spangler/Snowden/Seckma exclusive. No interest accrued during first 60 days of finance contract. After interest starts to accrue & purchaser pays principal interest fully over term of contract. ‡ 1% Payments On KIA offer available OAC to eligible credit customers who finance Lease or select new 2012/2013 1.6L MT 1.6L MT 1.6L MT 1.6L MT 2012 Optima 2013 Optima 2012 Sorento 2013 Sorento 2013 Forte 2013 Forte Koup 2013 Forte 2013 Niro 2012 Elantra 2013 Elantra. Eligible lease purchasers choose customer will provide a check at the amount of their purchases (excluding tax) as a maximum of \$300/\$300/\$300/\$300 per year. Lease finance purchases subject to approved credit. Customers will be given a choice between up to \$1,650/\$1,650/\$1,650/\$1,650/\$1,650/\$1,650 in reduced down payment following sell-off period after sale or dealer can issue a cheque to the customer. Some conditions apply. Offer ends October 31, 2012. 10-weekly finance payment (OAC) for new 2012 Optima LX A/C (CP#12C) based on selling price of \$26,260 to \$13,515 with APR of 1.49%, for 60 months amortized over 18-month period. Estimated remaining principal balance of \$6,600† plus due at end of 60 month period. Offer includes \$1,200† payments on net savings, delivery & destination fees of \$1,485, less recycling & other charges of \$34 C/MVIC fee, dealer admin fees (up to \$395), environmental fee & A.C. charge (\$300). License, taxes, PPSA & registration fees extra. Biweekly Finance plan (OAC) for new 2013 Fortia SX LMT (P2540K) based on a selling price of \$13,995 to \$4,945 with an APR of 1.99%, for 60 months, amortized over an 84-month period. Estimated remaining principal balance of \$4,832.99. Offer includes delivery & destination fees of \$1,485, less recycling & other charges of \$34 C/MVIC fee, dealer admin fees (up to \$395) & A.C. charge (\$300). License, insurance, taxes, PPSA & registration fees extra. Model shown MSRP for 2012 Rio EX V6 LEantra (P2578B) 2012 Optima SX Turbo (CP#12C) \$25,455/\$25,455. Includes delivery & destination fees of \$1,650/\$1,655, environmental fee & A.C. charge (\$300). License, insurance, taxes, dealer admin fees (up to \$395), net recycling & other charges of \$34 C/MVIC fee, PPSA & registration fees extra. Highway mileage fuel consumption based on Transport Canada's government fuel economy ratings. Refer to Government of Canada's EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide. Actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits or local factors. Some conditions apply to KIA Programs. For more information on KIA Programs & Warranty, visit kiacan.ca or call 1-877-542-2886. See dealer on km for details. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. KIA is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation and Kia Canada Inc., respectively. © J.D.I.

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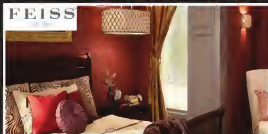


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LIBRARY EVENTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2012

In celebration of Ontario Public Library Week, the Port Colborne Public Library will hold a Food for Fines Day on Friday, October 19, 2012. Library patrons can help support Port Colborne's Reach Out Food Centre and reduce library fines by donating non-perishable items at the Port Colborne Library.

How does Food for Fines work? One donated food item = \$1 in overdue fines waived to a maximum of \$10. (This applies only to overdue fines and not to replacement costs for lost or damaged items.) Food items needed most are: peanut butter, cereal, canned fruit & vegetables, Hamburger Helper, pasta sauce, canned meats, crackers, large juices & juice boxes.

This year's theme for Ontario Library week, Libraries Connect/ Bibliothèques Branchées, is a great reminder of just how essential libraries are in the interconnected world in which we live. Libraries are at the centre of Canadian communities, providing a public space for people to meet, learn, connect and grow.

Drop by the Port Colborne Public Library to connect with others and support our local food bank during Ontario Public Library Week.

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For children ages 4 to 12.
Thursdays, October 11 to
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10-week session is \$40 or \$5 per
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SHOPPERS
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Wainfleet eager to sign Welland hospital petition

ALLAN BENNER
InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET— Mayor April Jeffs has had phone calls from residents wondering where they can add their names to a petition developed by Welland.

After all, if hospital services including pediatrics and obstetrics are moved to the new St. Catharines hospital, Jeffs said her constituents will have to go a lot further to travel. Likewise, if a new south Niagara hospital is built in Niagara Falls years from now, it will be Wainfleet residents who are among the most adversely affected.

"People have been weighing in on the issue all along — not as many as I would like to hear from," she said. "It's

been consistent with any of the residents that I've spoken to, they don't want to see Welland hospital go, or if we're going to have a new hospital they want it to be more centrally located."

At last week's council meeting, councillors approved a motion to adopt the petition to preserve hospital services put forth and approved by the City of Welland a week earlier.

Jeffs said the petition will be available at township hall for people who want to add their names to it, and for people to distribute throughout the community.

She suspects that it will soon be available to sign at Wainfleet businesses.

"People are terrified of losing those services, especially obstetrics," Jeffs said. "I had an e-mail from a resident who said that kind of drive for a woman in labour — it goes without saying, if there were any complications or anything, it would be horrible."



Jeffs



DAVE HANUSCHUK Staff Photo

Welland County General Hospital, as it was known for many years, is one of the sites recommended to be closed along with those in Port Colborne, Fort Erie and Niagara Falls. A new hospital for south Niagara has been recommended in a report released by the Niagara Health System's provincially-appointed supervisor.

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WASTE: New recycling pilot project for AAAs and 9-volts

Batteries not to be included

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Niagara Region is introducing a pilot project for curbside battery collection.

The two-week pilot will run Monday, Oct. 22, to Friday, Nov. 2, in Pelham, Welland and Port Colborne.

Batteries will be picked up on regularly scheduled garbage and recycling days.

Accepted will be standard A, AA, AAA, C, D and 9-volt batteries, lithium batteries and button cell batteries from

watches, toys, electronics, greeting cards and calculators, etc.

Residents can place the batteries in a sealed, clear plastic bag beside their blue or grey boxes. When disposing of lithium and button cell batteries, residents are asked to tape both ends of the battery before putting them in the bag.

Car batteries, rechargeable batteries, battery packs and industrial batteries will not be accepted.

see RECYCLING | page 11



DAVE JOHNSON QMI Agency Niagara
Allan Clark sorts through batteries on one of the lines at Raw Materials Company Inc. in Port Colborne.

■ RECYCLING

Pilot project to collect batteries

FROM PAGE 10

The program is part of the Stewardship Ontario Orange Drop program. All transportation costs are paid for by industry through Stewardship Ontario.

When batteries are properly recycled, the materials inside can replace raw materials for manufacturing a wide variety of products.

Batteries collected during the pilot project will be sent to Port Colborne-based recycling business Raw Materials Co.

Residents who live outside the pilot project area should visit www.makethedrop.ca to find one of 2,000 Orange Drop locations across Ontario where they can drop off batteries.

For more information, visit www.niagararegion.ca/waste.



DAVE JOHNSON QMI Agency Niagara

Batteries fall off of one of the lines at Raw Materials Company Inc. in Port Colborne after being sorted for recycling.

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When: Saturday, October 27, 2012

8:00 am until 3:00 pm

Where: Wainfleet Arena Parking Lot

**Held in conjunction with
Niagara Region Hazardous Household Waste Day**

Non-perishable food items and monetary donations will be accepted, cheques made payable to (Wainfleet Lions Food Drive).

Proceeds from this event will be distributed between the food banks of Port Colborne, Welland and Dunnville, which all serve the residents of Wainfleet.

Food or monetary contributions may also be dropped off in advance, the week of October 22nd at the Wainfleet branch of the Meridian Credit Union.

For further information, please contact:

Lori Heemskerk at 905-899-3951 (Meridian Credit Union), or
George DeRuyte at 289-820-6163 (Wainfleet Lions Club)

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Romans 10:9-11, The Bible

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■ BUSINESS

Port Colborne lures new Canadian Tire store owner

VICTORIA GRAY
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — After spending less than a month in Port Colborne, Brent Brennan fell in love with the people and the sights.

"It's very impressive," he says. "It's a really pretty town and most of the people are great."

Brennan bought the Canadian Tire store on Westside Rd. on Sept. 26. He has been working around the clock getting all of the necessary inspections, licences and certifications for the change in ownership.

Brennan has owned four Canadian Tire stores in the past nine years. Most recently he owned one in Toronto that closed in January to make way for a condominium building.

"I'm glad to be out of the hustle and bustle of the city," he says.

Brennan says he purchased the Port Colborne store because it was a good opportunity. He says the store has very strong, motivated employees who have worked there for many years — and that helps make things run smoothly.

see **NEW OWNER** | page 16



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

The Port Colborne Canadian Tire store has a new owner — Paul Brennan.

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■ NEW OWNER

A two-way street

FROM PAGE 14

"The people here make all the difference."

Brennan, his wife, Patty, and their four children live in Burlington. His family is very important to him and he says it keeps him pretty busy.

And like that of his family,

he knows that he can only get out as much as he puts into relationships.

He says that's why intends to continue on with the tradition of the local store's previous owner, Larry Garon, to give back to the community.

"You have to give something back," he says. "It's a two-way street."

BIO

■ Paul Brennan is the newest owner of the Port Colborne Canadian Tire store.

■ He has owned Canadian Tire stores in Toronto, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

■ He thinks the best part of owning a business is seeing satisfied customers and employees.

■ Has stayed with Canadian Tire because it's a strong domestic brand.

■ He hopes to keep the local store very involved with the community.



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo
Paul Brennan says he intends to carry on the tradition of giving back to the community.

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■ ACCOLADES

Port earns economic development honours

In Port News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — City of Port Colborne marketing efforts garnered four awards from the International Economic Development Council at its annual conference at the end of September.

It marks the second year in a row the Washington, D.C.-based IEDC has given multiple awards to the city for work by the economic development, tourism and marketing department.

"Port Colborne's strong, innovative marketing tools continue to garner attention among investors and busi-

nesses," said Mayor Vance Badawey. "Earning international recognition ... should inspire us to continue to evolve our promotional tools so that we can continue being recognized for the strengths Port Colborne offers businesses at home and abroad."

A gold award in the special event category was presented for Niagara's South Coast Arts and Culture Route launch event. The arts and culture route — designed to build awareness, attract tourists and promote economic diversity — celebrated the arts community through demonstrations and displays

by more than 35 local artists.

A gold award also went to the city for its manufacturing, transportation and wind energy companion brochures. The brochures promoted business retention and expansion by highlighting the community as a location for new manufacturing investments.

Port Colborne's Carbohydrate Valley video received a silver award in the general purpose promotion category. A new 11-minute high-definition video promotes the concept of Carbohydrate Valley to viewers, and the role the city plays in the bio-food industry.

The theme of the video, "All the right ingredients," emphasizes the city is one of the few locations in North America with local access to key bio-food products with strong transportation links to Canadian and American markets.

Port Colborne's Residential Development Advertisements received a silver award in the paid advertising campaign category. The campaign is part of a strategy to actively promote the city to the development industry as an exciting community, well-positioned for new residential developments.



Supplied photo

The City of Port Colborne recently won four awards from the International Economic Development Council. Standing with Stephen Thompson, middle, Port Colborne's director of economic development, are Jay Moon, left, chairman of the IEDC board, and Jan Rogers, right, IEDC chair for excellence in economic development advisory committee.

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■ MONEY

Lakeside city hopes to catch funding wave

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Port Colborne is vying for provincial funding to protect its assets.

After receiving approval from council, the municipality will submit an expression

of interest to the Municipal Infrastructure Investment Initiative Funding for Asset Management in hopes of receiving grant money.

If funding is received, Port Colborne will be able to hire a consultant to create a sustainable asset management plan.

Municipalities with populations under 20,000 are eligible for the grant.

A base amount of \$20,000 is available along with an incremental amount based on the value of the city's roads, bridges and water/wastewater infrastructure in the 2011 financial information return.

Staff have been working on the inventory and valuation of the city's assets over the past two years, including items such as roads, bridges, buildings, vehicles, machinery and equipment.

The plan will determine priorities of when and what assets require replacement, replacement costs and a financing plan for replacement over time.

Having a management plan will be a big determining factor going forward for municipalities hoping to receive future funding from the province, said Peter

Senese, Port Colborne's director of community and corporate services. Staff, he said, are hoping to have the plan ready in time for 2014 budget deliberations.

maryanne.firth@sunmedia.ca
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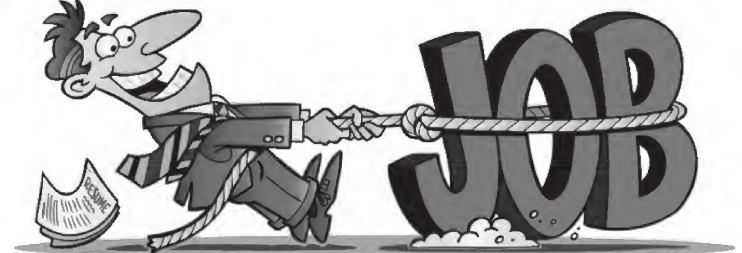
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■ PROFILE

Slice of life served up at Port Bakery

VICTORIA GRAY
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Marion Abrams dishes out much more than pies at her bakery.

The 61-year-old with an infectious smile gives out a hearty helping of laughter along with a helping hand, an ear and a shoulder for those who need it.

"I was always taught to take care of my own and the people in Port Colborne have become my own," she said.

Every Monday the owner of the British Baking Company on Charlotte St. in Port Colborne and her daughter, Jennifer Gardiner take a load of baked goods to Port Carers Reach Out Centre for the soup kitchen.

"I always say where a person is in life is where a circumstance is said. It's who you know, who you love, who you get to get as parents and the place you're in. Some people need

a hand and there's nothing wrong with that."

She strongly believes that people who are less fortunate don't deserve to be hidden or treated poorly.

Every holiday season, be it Christmas or Thanksgiving Abrams and Gardiner donate fresh baked meat pies, scones and even three-tiered fully decorated cakes to the Reach Out Centre.

"I want them to have fresh food," she said. "I want them to have something that was made for them. Why do they deserve 'day old' (on a special occasion)?"

The 56-year-old was born in Wigan, England and lived in small towns all her life. She was always surrounded by family and close friends who took care of each other.

"She realised to do the same because if one person is sinking, everybody in a small town is."

She came to Canada with her parents and three siblings when she was 18 and the family settled in St. Catharines.

"At first I planned to go back, but I couldn't leave my family," she said.

She fell in love with the blue skies and fresh air in Niagara and convinced her fiancé, David Gardiner, to join her.

In 2000, she had a benign tumour removed from her chest cavity, but six months later she was diagnosed with Stage 3 cancer.

She spent seven years fighting for her life and when she was finished chemotherapy and radiation she was told she had secondary low grade lymphoma and she would have to undergo treatment again, but there was no cure.

"I didn't think I could do it again," she said.

She hadn't spent much time outside of her home and the hospital during that time, but

she wanted to fulfill one of her life's dreams, so she opened the bakery.

"I think being here has helped me a lot more than I've helped anyone," she said.

She's surrounded by laughter and good people and she likes taking care of them the way they've helped her feel better.

Abrams said she sees the bakery as an extension of her home and tries very hard to make sure her guests are taken care of as if they were sitting at her dining room table.

She gives regular customers freebies at the end of the day or if she knows someone is having a rough time financially she will give them a break. If she sees someone who looks upset she'll sit them down for coffee to sort through it.

"I know it's a business," she said. "We need to make money, but we don't need every dime."



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo
Marion Abrams is the owner of British Baking Company in Port Colborne and serves more than just baked goods.

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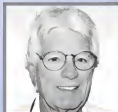
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PREFERRED NUTRITION



W. Gifford-Jones, MD

Dr. Gifford-Jones is a graduate of the University of Toronto and The Harvard Medical School. He trained in general surgery at the Strong Memorial Hospital, University of Rochester, Montreal General Hospital, McGill University and in Gynecology at Harvard. His weekly medical column is published in 70 Canadian newspapers and reaches six million readers.

Medi-C Plus

What to Expect from this product:

- Produces healthy collagen
- Dissolves cholesterol deposits
- Reduces the risk of cardiovascular disease
- Increases blood flow to coronary arteries
- Prevents formation of free radicals



Humans do not make Vitamin C like animals do, we need to supplement this essential vitamin to make our daily needs.

Vitamin C and Lysine work together to build collagen, which strengthens and holds together the coronary cells. Inadequate amounts of vitamin C mean poor collagen. Coronary cells then fall apart just as bricks do without good mortar. Coronary arteries, closest to the heart, receive the greatest pressure and without enough vitamin C the collagen weakens. This sets the stage for heart attack. The work of Dr. Sydney Bush shows that vitamin C + lysine can help reverse the process.

EACH 6.5 cc SCOOP CONTAINS

Medicinal Ingredients

Vitamin C (Calcium ascorbate, Ascorbic Acid)	2000mg
Calcium (Calcium ascorbate)	179mg
L-Lysine (L-Lysine hydrochloride)	1300mg

Non-medicinal Ingredients

Xylitol, natural orange flavour, citric acid, natural lime flavour, stevia

SUGGESTED USAGE

Dissolve one 6.5 cc scoop (5g) in 150ml of water.



**Tanya and
Ian Birrell**
Owners of
The Healthy Cupboard

**TWO
LOCATIONS**

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